

REMARKS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed remarks and analysis. Claims 1-3, and 5-17 remain in the application, claim 4 has been cancelled.

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13, 14 and 16 have been rejected as being anticipated by Libis (U.S. 4,173,440). Claim 1 requires a choke orifice disposed in series with an inlet for changing a lubricant flow rate relative to the outlet orifice. This feature is not disclosed in Libis. Further, this feature was originally presented in claim 4 that was indicated as being allowable.

Claim 9 requires a choke orifice in series with the inlet orifice for controlling the flow of lubricant to the inlet orifice relative to the flow of lubricant to the outlet orifice. This feature is not disclosed or suggested by Libis. Accordingly, claims 1 and 9 are not anticipated by Libis.

Claim 1 was rejected as being anticipated by Fujio (JP 59-231189) or Ernens (U.S. 6,095,780). Claim 1 includes the limitations originally presented in claim 4. Claim 4 was indicated as being allowable. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by Fujio or Ernens.

Claims 15 and 17 were indicated as being obvious over Libis and the skill in the art. Claims 15 and 17 ultimately depend from an allowable base claim and are therefore also in allowable form.

Claims 4 and 12 were indicated as being allowable. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 4. Claim 12 has been rewritten in independent form.

The claims are in condition for allowance. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,
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